40

3

display (LPD) technology, or some other display technology. The touch screen 104 may be sensitive to haptic and/or tactile contact with a user.

The cradle 102 may include a plurality of power supply line connecting terminals 107 and data communicating terminals 109. The terminals 107, 109 may comprise a plurality of protruding pins 108. The plurality of protruding pins 108 may be disposed to be situated to correspond to connectors, such as logo connectors 202 and 206 (as shown in FIG. 2A) of the tablet PC 100. The protruding pins 108 may be biased by elastic members, such as springs (not shown). The tablet PC 100 may use the cradle 102, for example, to charge the batteries of the tablet PC 100. Data communication may also be established between the tablet PC 100 and the cradle 102.

Referring to FIG. 2A, a first logo connector 202 may be 15 disposed at a first place of the back side 106 of the housing 101 of the tablet PC 100. A second logo connector 206 may be disposed at a second place which may be different from the first place. The shape of the first logo connector 202 may be a trademark, such as ThinkPadTM as shown in FIG. 2C. The 20 shape of the second logo connector 206 may be a different trademark, such as Lenovo™ as shown in FIG. 2B.

Referring to FIG. 2D, a connector system 200 may include the housing 101 and a plurality of externally accessible connectors 208. The plurality of externally accessible connectors 25 208 may be substantially flat and may be separated by insulated materials, such as insulated plastics 210, forming a plurality of channels 212, for example, as shown in FIG. 2D. The channels 212 may be configured to receive the protruding pins 108 of the cradle 102. Thus, the protruding pins 108 may fit into the channels **212** and contact the externally accessible connectors 208.

As shown in FIG. 3A, the connector system 200 may further include a circuit board 306, such as flexible printed circuit board (FPC). The plurality of externally accessible 35 couple to a power supply and a data communicator. connectors 208 may be mounted directly on the circuit board 306 within the housing 101 so that the plurality of externally accessible connectors 208 may extend substantially perpendicularly from the plane of the circuit board 306 and face the back side 106 of the housing 101.

The plurality of externally accessible connector 208 may comprise at least a first set of connectors 202 and a second set of connectors 206. The first set of connectors 202 may be arranged into a first pattern 222. The second set of connectors 206 may be arranged into a second pattern 220. The first 45 pattern 222 may be a trademark logo, such as ThinkPad™, for example. The second pattern 220 may be a different trademark logo, such as LenovoTM, for example.

In one exemplary embodiment, the plurality of externally accessible connectors 208 may be configured to releasably 50 couple to the power supply connecting terminal 107 and the data communicating terminal 109 of the cradle 102. In another exemplary embodiment, a selected set of connectors 208 may be used as a power line; another selected set of connectors 208 may be used as a data line. In other words, the 55 connectors are mounted on the first circuit board directly. power line and the data line may be mixed together in a single pattern, such as the first pattern 222, described above.

As shown in FIG. 3B, the plurality of externally accessible connectors 208, such as metal plates, for example, may be connected with connecting wire, such as copper wire 304, for 60 example. There may be a support plate 308 under the flexible printed circuit board 306 to support the externally accessible connectors 208 and the flexible printed circuit board 306.

It should be understood, of course, that the foregoing relate to exemplary embodiments of the invention and that modifications may be made without departing from the spirit and scope of the invention as set forth in the following claims.

We claim:

- 1. A connector system, comprising:
- an electronic computing device having a housing having a front side and a back side:
- a circuit board mounted within the housing; and
- a plurality of externally accessible connectors mounted on the circuit board within the housing, so that the plurality of externally accessible connectors extend from a plane of the circuit board and face the back side of the housing, wherein the plurality of externally accessible connectors are arranged into at least one pattern comprising a logo, wherein the plurality of externally accessible connectors comprise a substantially flat metal plate, and wherein the plurality of externally accessible connectors comprise at least a first set of externally accessible connectors.
- 2. The connector system of claim 1, wherein the plurality of externally accessible connectors are separated by insulated
- 3. The connector system of claim 2, wherein the insulated materials form a plurality of channels.
- 4. The connector system of claim 1, wherein the plurality of externally accessible connectors include a second set of externally accessible connectors.
- 5. The connector system of claim 4, wherein the first set of externally accessible connectors are arranged into a first pattern and the second set of externally accessible connectors are arranged in a second pattern.
- 6. The connector system of claim 1, wherein the circuit board comprises a flexible printed circuit board.
- 7. The connector system of claim 1, wherein the second pattern comprises a second logo.
- 8. The connector system of claim 1, wherein the plurality of externally accessible connectors are configured to releasably
- 9. The connector system of claim 1, wherein the front side of the housing is adapted to receive a display screen.
 - 10. A computer tablet apparatus comprising:
 - a plurality of connectors disposed at an exterior surface of a housing of the computer tablet apparatus, the plurality of connectors being substantially flat including at least a first set of connectors disposed at a first place of the external surface of the housing, and a second set of connectors disposed at a second place away from the first place of the external surface of the housing, wherein the plurality of connectors are arranged into a product logo.
 - wherein the plurality of connectors are externally accessible, and
 - wherein the first set of connectors are arranged into a first pattern, and the second set of connectors are arranged into a second pattern.
- 11. The electronic computing apparatus of claim 10, further comprising a first circuit board, wherein the first set of
 - 12. A mobile computing device, comprising:
 - a housing having a front side and a back side, wherein the front side is adapted to receive a display screen; and
 - a plurality of externally accessible connectors mounted on the back side of the housing, wherein the plurality of externally accessible connectors are arranged into a plurality of patterns, wherein at least one of the plurality of patterns comprise a logo, wherein the plurality of externally accessible connectors are adapted to transfer power, wherein the plurality of externally accessible connectors include at least a first set of externally accessible connectors.